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May 24, 2011

Mr. Trevor Joseph  
California Department of Water Resources  
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management  
Financial Assistance Branch  
PO Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236

Re: Proposition 84 Round 1 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)  
Implementation Grant Draft Funding Recommendations

Dear Mr. Joseph:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Proposition 84 Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Draft Funding Recommendations (Recommendations). The Kings River Conservation District (District) supports the Recommendations of the California Department of Water Resources (CDWR) staff. We feel CDWR staff has conducted a very creditable analysis of the grant applications and that the draft recommendations are consistent with both the Proposition 84 IRWM Guidelines, and the Round 1 Implementation Proposal Solicitation Package. The District encourages CDWR to finalize the Recommendations without any revisions.

Furthermore, the District supports the efforts of the Upper Kings Basin IRWM Authority (Water Authority) to secure external funding. The amount requested in the Proposition 84 Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant application submitted by the Water Authority (composed of over 50 Members and Interested Parties) was \$13,333,333. While the recommended award (\$8,496,000) is significantly lower than the amount requested, the project proponents will likely be able to complete their respective projects by contributing additional local funds. However, if less than the recommended amount is received, completion of the projects could be at risk.

In conclusion, the District fully supports the efforts of Upper Kings Basin IRWM Authority as it seeks Proposition 84 IRWM Implementation Grant funding, and encourages CDWR to finalize the Recommendations without any revisions.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

David Orth  
General Manager

DO/EO/dp

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